

IN THE CLAIMS

1-6 (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ document information management method ~~according to claim 1, for opening document information to a plurality of users, comprising the steps of:~~  
managing each of said document information in an  
editable form and in a reference-only form;  
offering said document information in the editable  
form to users desiring re-utilizing of said document  
information; and  
tracing and managing the utilization state of said  
document information when said document information is re-  
utilized,  
wherein, when said document information is re-utilized, said step of tracing and managing a subsequent re-utilization state of said document information comprises the steps of:

causing a re-utilizing user who re-utilizes said document information to submit the re-utilizing document information for a review;

presenting a subsequent re-utilization state after re-utilization of said document information to a creator of said document information;

if said creator ~~conducted the review~~ accepts the contents of said re-utilizing document information, notifying said re-utilizing user of completion of the review; and

if said creator did not accept a content of said re-utilizing document information and pointed out a problem, notifying said re-utilizing user of no-completion of the review of said re-utilizing document information, urging said re-utilizing user to solve said problem.

8. Canceled

9. (New) The document information management method according to claim 7, wherein, when said document information is offered in the editable form to users desiring re-utilizing of said document information, information of a re-utilizing

party of said document information is notified to a creator of said document information.

10. (New) The document information management method according to claim 7, wherein, when said document information is re-utilized, said document information after re-utilizing is sent to a creator of said document information.

11. (New) The document information management method according to claim 7, wherein commentary information made by a creator of said document information is notified to a re-utilizing party of said document.

12. (New) The document information management method according to claim 7, wherein, when said document information is re-utilized and a subsequent utilization state of said document information is traced and managed, a time limit is set to complete a review of the re-utilized document information and a creator and a re-utilizing user is prompted to complete review based on the time limit.